

C¹ 25. (Amended) A method for the treatment of insulin dependent (type I) diabetes comprising administering to a prediabetic mammal, or a mammal having partial β cell destruction, a composition comprising a soluble fibronectin polypeptide [VLA-4 blocking agent], in an amount effective to treat diabetes.

C² 28. (Amended) [A] The method according to claim 25 [27], wherein the fibronectin polypeptide comprises an EILDV motif.

31. (Amended) [A] The method according to claim 25[26], wherein the [soluble peptide] fibronectin polypeptide is a component of a chimeric molecule.

32. (Amended) [A] The method according to claim 31, wherein the chimeric molecule further comprises a toxin moiety.

C³ 33. (Amended) [A] The method according to claim 25, wherein the mammal is prediabetic.

34. (Amended) [A] The method according to claim 33, wherein the prediabetic mammal is a human.

35. (Amended) [A] The method according to claim 25, wherein the mammal has partial β cell destruction.

REMARKS

Claims 26-27 and 29-30 have been canceled, without prejudice.

Claim 25 has been amended to incorporate the limitation of a fibronectin polypeptide previously set forth in claim 27 (now canceled). Claims 28 and 31-35 have been amended to correct some formalities. No new subject matter has been added. Upon entry of this amendment, claims 25, 28 and 31-35 will be pending.

Response to Species Election


In the Office Action mailed from the Patent Office on January 18, 2000, the Examiner required election of one of the following species: (a) soluble polypeptides (wherein the agents are (a) fibronectin, or a (b) chimeric peptide); or (b) small molecules capable of binding to VLA-4. Applicants note that the claims to soluble polypeptides and small molecules have been canceled herein, thereby obviating the Examiner's election. However, for the purpose of being responsive to the outstanding Office Action, Applicants hereby elect the species of a fibronectin polypeptide.

SUMMARY

The present claims are in condition for allowance.

If a telephone conversation with Applicant's Attorney would expedite the prosecution of the above-identified application, the Examiner is urged to call Applicant's Attorney at (617) 542-5070.

Respectfully submitted,
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